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Buenos Aires, January 1, 2003



General Information Services Division
US Patent and Trademark Office
Crystal Plaza 3, Room 2002
Washington DC, D.C. 20231
U. S. A.

Dear Sirs

Over a month ago I sent the teller copied hereunder. Since I have not received any answer yet, it is possible that it has been lost in the mails. Please be so kind as to send me a reply at your earliest convenience. I am most anxious to know what the present situation is of the indicated Patent Application.

Thanking you in advance I will be looking forward to your early news.

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "Massimo Galli".

Buenos Aires, December 6, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
USPTO
Washington, D.C. 20231
USA

Dear Sir:

In November of 2001 I sent a Patent Application that was received and logged in on November 9 under the US Application Serial Number 09 985 989.

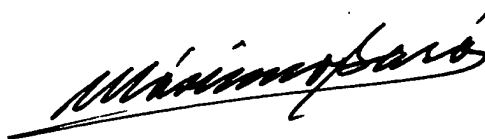
Unfortunately the confirmation of arrival never arrived so that I had no way to trace the status of this Application. Fortunately, due to the kind intervention of a colleague in the US I now have the identifying number.

In the Information Booklet about the US Patent Office procedures there is an indication that the usual time for the issue of a First official Action is from 4 to 5 months and over a year has now passed.

Therefore, please be so kind as to inform me on the present state of this application and also what can I do to follow up its future developments.

Thanking you in advance I will be looking forward to your early news.

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Máximo Barón", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

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